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Bocconi

PhD IN STATISTICS AND MACHINE LEARNING



Knowledge that matters.

The PhD in Statistics and Machine Learning at Bocconi University is a rigorous, internationally oriented four-year doctoral program taught in English. It brings together theory, modeling, and computation, with strong foundations in probability. Its overarching objective is to train researchers to make original contributions at the highest international level.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE AND TRAINING

The program features **two years of structured coursework**, following the model of leading US PhD programs. The first year comprises twelve courses providing a common foundation in Statistics, Probability, and Machine Learning, and concludes with the Summer School in Advanced Statistics and Probability.

During the second year, **students begin working on research problems** while taking nine research-oriented courses focusing on advanced topics and recent developments, including one taught by a distinguished visiting professor. A reading group complements the coursework as students develop their research interests and identify an advisor.

The third and fourth years are devoted to original research and the completion of the doctoral dissertation, with close faculty supervision.

FACULTY AND RESEARCH ENVIRONMENT

The faculty brings together internationally recognized researchers whose expertise spans Bayesian statistics, machine learning, nonparametric and high-dimensional inference, computational methods and algorithms, and applied probability. Applications range from complex networks and neuroscience to genomics, biomedicine, climate extremes, and ecological risk.

Students join Bocconi's active international research community, with opportunities to interact with distinguished visiting scholars and attend the Statistics seminar series and seminars organized by the Bocconi Institute for Data Science and Analytics (BIDSA). The research environment also includes the Bayesian Learning Laboratory (BayesLab), a research unit within BIDSA. Students are encouraged to present their work at international conferences and have opportunities to spend research periods abroad.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND PLACEMENT

The program prepares students for research careers in academia as well as in industry and public organizations. It builds on Bocconi's longstanding tradition of doctoral education in Statistics. Bocconi's Statistics PhD alumni have secured positions at universities and research institutions including Duke University, Harvard University, Stanford University, the University of Cambridge, and EPFL, as well as organizations such as Google, Bending Spoons, the European Central Bank, and the Bank of Italy.

FUNDING AND ADMISSIONS

The program offers **six four-year fellowships** fully funded by the Tech Europe Foundation (TEF). Each fellowship provides **€27,000 gross per year** and a **full tuition-fee exemption**. TEF is a non-profit institution that supports fundamental research and fosters collaboration between academia and the deep-tech sector.

We welcome applications from highly qualified candidates with backgrounds in Statistics, Mathematics, Data Science, Computer Science, Economics, Engineering, and other quantitatively oriented fields. The first cohort will begin in September 2027. Applications close on **8 February 2027**.

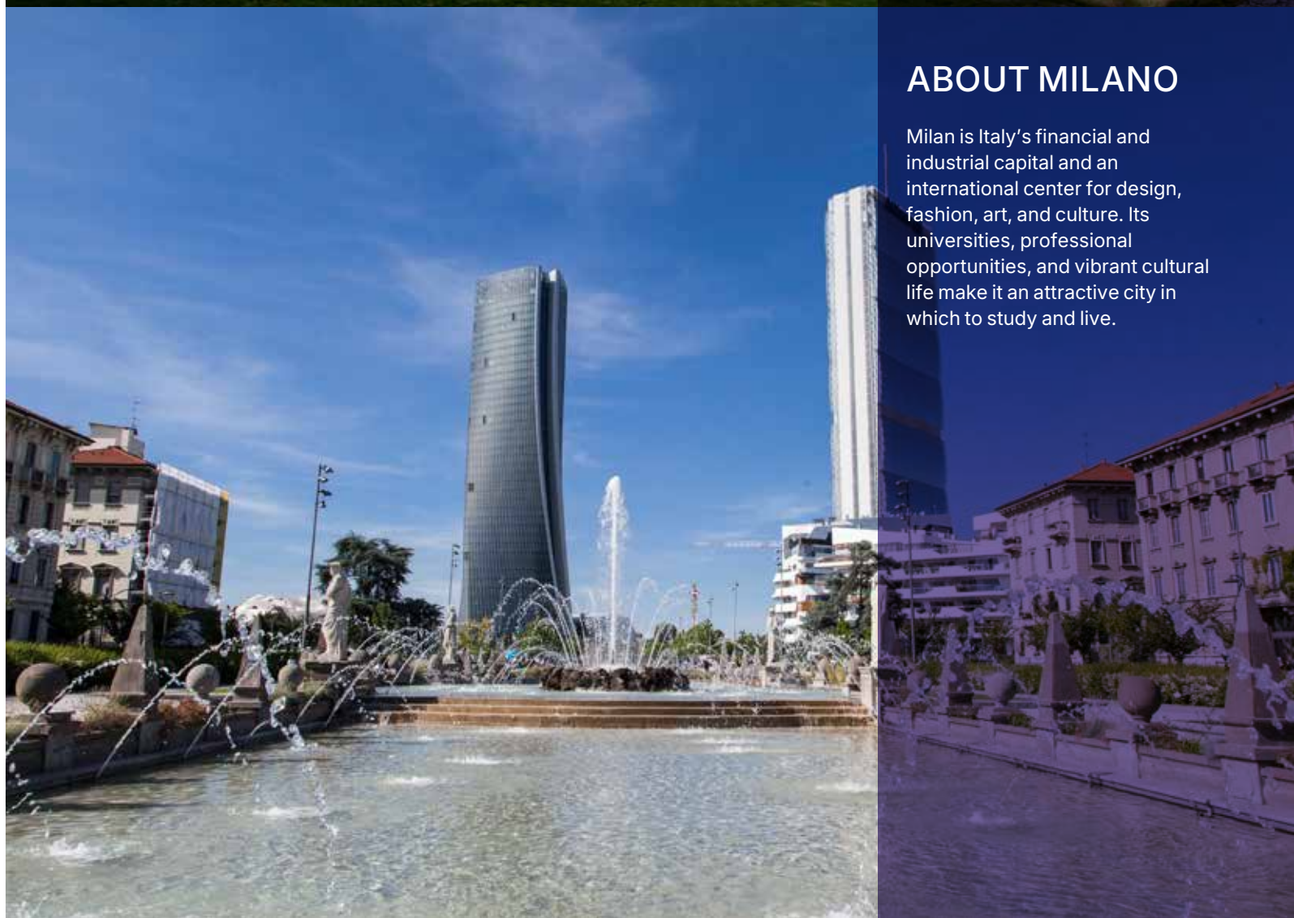




ABOUT BOCCONI

Founded in Milan in 1902, Bocconi University was the first Italian university to offer a degree in economics. Today, it is a leading European university for research and teaching, with a strong international outlook. Its academic activities span economics, management, finance, law, political science, data science and computer science, with a growing focus on artificial intelligence. Through rigorous research and innovative education, Bocconi advances knowledge and contributes to social and economic progress. Guided by the values of independence, integrity, openness and inclusion, it brings together talented students and scholars from around the world, preparing future researchers, professionals and leaders to address global challenges.

www.unibocconi.eu



ABOUT MILANO

Milan is Italy's financial and industrial capital and an international center for design, fashion, art, and culture. Its universities, professional opportunities, and vibrant cultural life make it an attractive city in which to study and live.